



## The Third Sunday after Epiphany

I'd far rather be happy than right any day.

*Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 4-7.*

# Prelude

Benedictus, from *Mass for the Parishes*

François Couperin

## Call to Worship

Psalm 62:5-8, 11-12

One: For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

**All:** He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

One: On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

**All:** Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

One: Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.

**All:** For you repay to all according to their work.

Hymn 397 (p. 4)

*Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*

# Canonbury

## Prayer of Invocation

## Gloria (*Unison*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission

# Anthem

Come, Ye That Love the Lord

Trad., arr. Alice Parker

## Children's Moment

Today's lesson from the Hebrew Bible tells the end of the story of Jonah, who had been called to preach repentance to the people of Nineveh, which was the capital city of one of Israel's fiercest enemies. Well, those people heard Jonah. They repented! And that

would have been surprising to all who heard this story: God cared about his people's enemies. He wanted them, just like the children of Israel, to have a chance to get things right. How about us? Will we care about, will we love those we don't like? It's something for all of us to think about.

**Hymn 341** (p. 5)      *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*

Rest

### Scripture Lessons

*Jonah 3:1-5, 10.* The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. [...]

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

*Mark 1:14-20.* <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

**Sermon**      “So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish”

Stephen R. Silver

**Hymn 465** (p. 6)      *Teach me, O Lord, Your Holy Way*

Rockingham

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

*As we hold community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing. Help keep our prayer list current by contacting Rev. Silver or the church office to add or remove names.*

Today we offer ongoing prayers for Pete, Arlene, Evelyn, Gordon, Greg, Jan, Edith, Eileen, Waneta, Terry, Juanita, Dan, Travis, Garrett, Sue, Rick, Edward, Duane, Priscilla, Ron, Lauren, Brian, Micah, and Al.

God of the storm-tossed seas, God of the calming breeze: in this season of choosing, we ask for your support, your help, your sustenance. Let us all make the most of this time of new beginnings, to look away from recriminations and toward the promise of your

Beloved Community. We know that as disciples, we are called to share your good news with all people, not just those with whom we are comfortable or those we like. Give us the strength to fully embrace your call.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your Son Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer** (*Unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### **Offering of Gifts**

*Remembering those who are without, who are in need, who are often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing ministry in and for the community.*

**Offertory**                      *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*                      Harold Friedell

### **Doxology** (*Unison*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **Prayer of Dedication** (*Unison*)

Like a shepherd, you gather your wayward people.  
Like a guardian, you watch over your Creation.  
Like a parent, you embrace your children with love.  
With thanks, awe, and joy, we offer these gifts, a sign of our response to your outreach to us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**Hymn 504** (p. 7)              *You Walk Along Our Shoreline*                      Salley Gardens

### **Benediction**

**Postlude**                      *Dialogue, from Mass for the Parishes*                      François Couperin

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### *Leading Worship This Week*

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor  
Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • Bob Ross, Liturgist  
Chris Chase and Barbara Jones, Ushers • Dawn Troutman, Zoom Greeter

# Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

397

Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

CANONBURY L.M.

Arr. from Robert A. Schumann, 1810-1856

1 Lord, speak to me, that I may speak In  
2 O strength - en me, that while I stand Firm  
3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach The  
4 O fill me with thy full - ness, Lord, Un -

liv - ing ech - oes of thy tone; As thou hast sought, so  
on the rock, and strong in thee, I may stretch out a  
pre - cious things thou dost im - part; And wing my words, that  
til my ver - y heart o'er - flow In kin - dling thought and

let me seek Thy err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.  
lov - ing hand To wres - tlers with the trou - bled sea!  
they may reach The hid - den depths of man - y a heart!  
glow - ing word, Thy love to tell, thy praise to show! A - men.

*If you wish to have a joy, concern, or prayer request lifted up in the service, or if you know of someone who may need special prayers, a card or phone call, or some other form of pastoral care, please email [prayer@fccleb.org](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) or speak with Rev. Silver directly.*

## New Covenant Members to be Received— Sunday, February 4

Have you found a welcoming community of people and a spiritually nourishing church home here? Would you like to get more involved in our programs and events? **If so, you are warmly invited to join our church as a covenant member.**

*If you are interested in this invitation or have questions about membership, please speak with the Rev. Steve Silver—or, actually, anyone else!—after the service at coffee hour.*

# Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

341

John Greenleaf Whittier, 1807-1892

REST 8.6.8.8.6.

Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

1 Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, For - give our fool - ish ways.  
 2 In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, Be - side the Syr - ian sea,  
 3 O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee! O calm of hills a - bove!  
 4 Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, Till all our striv - ings cease;  
 5 Breathe through the puls - es of de - sire Thy cool - ness and thy balm;

Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind; In pur - er lives thy  
 The gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, Let us, like them, with -  
 Where Je - sus knelt to share with thee The si - lence of e -  
 Take from our souls the strain and stress, And let our or - dered  
 Let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire: Speak through the earth - quake,

serv - ice find, In deep - er rev - erence, praise.  
 out a word, Rise up and fol - low thee.  
 ter - ni - ty, In - ter - pret - ed by love.  
 lives con - fess The beau - ty of thy peace.  
 wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm. A - men.

## THE SOUPER BOWL IS BACK!

With pro football's championship game happening next month, it's time once again to support this year's **SOUPER BOWL**! We will tackle local hunger with a collection of soup and other non-perishable items, to be split among our neighbors at **HEADREST**, the **UPPER VALLEY HAVEN**, and **LISTEN COMMUNITY SERVICES**.

*Donations may be left in the boxes in the Parish Hall until February 11. You may also bring them directly to any of the three beneficiaries (please let us know if you do so). THANK YOU!!*

**FCC's 2024 Annual Meeting will be Sunday, February 11, at 11:30 (on Zoom)**

## Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way

William Matson, 1866; alt.

1 Teach me, O Lord, your ho - ly way,  
 2 Help me, O Sav - ior, here to trace  
 3 Guard me, O Christ, that I may ne'er  
 4 Bless me in ev - ery task I face,

and give me an o - be - dient mind,  
 the sa - cred foot - steps you have trod;  
 for - sake the right, or do the wrong;  
 be - gun, con - tin - ued, done for you;

That in your ser - vice I may find  
 and ful - ly trust - ing in my God,  
 A - gainst temp - ta - tion make me strong,  
 Ful - fill your will in all I do,

my heart's de - light from day to day.  
 to grow in good - ness, truth, and grace.  
 and keep me in your shel - tering care.  
 and grant me your a - bun - dant grace.

William Matson, English poet and Congregational minister, wrote a poem of 321 four-line stanzas titled "The Inner Life" (1866). This hymn of obedience to Christ has been drawn from that extended poem.

Tune: ROCKINGHAM L.M.

Anon.

Adapt. Edward Miller, 1790



# You Walk along Our Shoreline

504

Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1984; alt.

Mark 1:16–20; John 17:20–26

1 You walk a - long our shore - line where land meets un - known sea.  
 2 You call us, Christ, to gath - er the peo - ple of the earth.  
 3 We cast our net, O Je - sus; we seek your prom - ised reign;

We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me. And  
 We can - not fish for on - ly those lives we think have worth. We  
 We work for love and jus - tice; we learn to hope through pain. You

if you still will fol - low through storm and wave and shoal,  
 spread your net of gos - pel a - cross the wa - ter's face,  
 call on us to gath - er God's daugh - ters and God's sons,

Then I will make you fish - ers, but of the hu - man soul."  
 Our boat a com - mon shel - ter for all found by your grace.  
 To let your judg - ment heal us so that all may be one.

Hymnwriter Sylvia Dunstan credited an article by Michael Steinhauser in the March 1984 issue of *Practice of Ministry* in Canada entitled "Fishing: A Metaphor for Ministry" as the inspiration for her text. Dunstan was an ordained minister of the United Church of Canada.

Tune: SALLEY GARDENS 7.6.7.6.D.  
 Traditional Irish melody  
 Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

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### *Upper Valley Music Center Community Chorus—Friday, January 19, at 7:00 pm*

Directed by Annie Arrington and accompanied by Will Ögmundson, UVMC's Community Chorus is pleased to offer its debut concert! The program includes a variety of musical styles and genres, following the group's motto—Just Sing! *More at [uvmusic.org/event/community-chorus-uvmc-concert](http://uvmusic.org/event/community-chorus-uvmc-concert).*

### *The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, Jan. 26, Feb. 9 and 23, Mar. 8 and 22, all at 7:30 pm*

Our comfy community venue for live folk music is thriving in its fourth season! Come and go as you please; food and drink available. *Free admission. For performers and more, visit [anoncoffee.org](http://anoncoffee.org).*

### *Cantabile Women's Voices: Northern Exposure—Sunday, January 28, at 3:00 pm*

Kathy Sherlock-Green brings back this outstanding chorus with an exploration of music from across northern Europe and Canada. They'll sing music of Eriks Esenvalds, Kim André Arnesen, Jean Sibelius, Canadians Eleanor Daley and Donald Patriquin, and an original piece by Kim Baryluk based on Native Canadian Mi'kmaq chant. *Adults \$15, seniors \$10, students (13+) \$5, under 13 free. Advance purchase preferred; more at [www.cantabilewomen.org](http://www.cantabilewomen.org).*

### *Benjamin Kulp, Cello, and Chenyu Wang, Piano—Sunday, February 11, at 3:00 pm*

UVMC's longtime cellist Ben Kulp joins new faculty member Chenyu Wang for a concert of short works for cello and piano. *More at [uvmusic.org/event/ben-kulp-cello-and-chenyu-wang-piano](http://uvmusic.org/event/ben-kulp-cello-and-chenyu-wang-piano).*

### **Don't Bury Your Treasure** *Many Thanks for Your 2024 Stewardship Pledges*

*"For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance." —Matthew 25:29*

All are invited to prayerfully consider their commitment to FCC's mission and ministry in the coming year. We have so far received 26 pledges for 2024, and we will gratefully continue to accept more anytime in the coming weeks. Thank you for your support of our church!

*Please either place your pledge form in the offering plate or return it to the church office by mail. Box sets (#1-20) of offering envelopes for 2024 are available in the Parish Hall.*

## **NOTICE of ANNUAL MEETING – Sunday, February 11, 11:30 am (on Zoom)**

The Annual Meeting of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, NH, will be held online in Zoom format on **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024, AT 11:30 AM**, after that morning's worship service, for the following purposes:

1. To hear the reports of all officers, committees, and organizations, as required under the CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS of the church.
2. The election of all officers provided for under the CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS of the church.
3. To consider and act upon any other matters relating to the general church welfare that may properly come before this meeting.





**First Congregational Church of Lebanon**

PO Box 230  
10 South Park St  
Lebanon NH 03766

**Weekly Worship Resources Enclosed!**

*DATED MATERIAL—Please Deliver Promptly*

***Do you use email? Contact [church@fcclieb.org](mailto:church@fcclieb.org) to receive this and other communication by email.***

***Welcome!***

We are a Christ-centered community that celebrates the love of God. Although we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together in Christ. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual as God's beloved child. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are welcome and included.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race or ethnicity, physical or mental ability, or economic circumstance, you are invited into the full life and ministry of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, including its worship, sacraments, and rites.

***Join us as we grow together in God's love.***

**First Congregational Church of Lebanon**

**The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor**

**Ernie Drown, Organist and Choir Director • Brian Clancy, Church Administrator**

**Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • Barbara Jones, Moderator**

*Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)*

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